



# Astro Notes

Official newsletter of *Houston, We Have a Promenade*

IAGSDC Convention 38 • Houston, Texas • July 2-4, 2021

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\*\*\* OFFICIAL BRIEFING UPDATE \*\*\*

**Changed Items:** Registration, First Timer Discount, Hotel and Airport Information, Trail In Dance Lineup

\*\*\* END BRIEFING UPDATE \*\*\*

## From the Chair

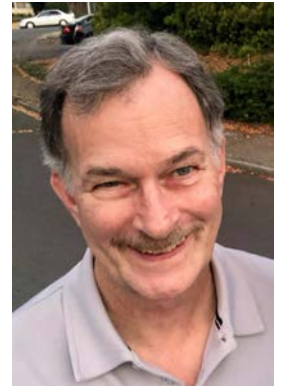
Since our last update, there have been a number of disruptive world events, specifically centered on the COVID-19 pandemic.

This terrible event has caused the cancellation of *Take A Peak!*, the 2020 IAGSDC Convention which was scheduled to be held in Denver, CO this July.

We have reached out to the *Take A Peak!* Committee to work with them on communications continuity, and to plan a [pleasant] surprise or two for our community.

On behalf of **Heads to the Center** and **Convention Planners, Inc.**, please allow me to assure you that based on feedback from *Take A Peak*, IAGSDC, and our larger dance community, **we are working very hard to revise plans to make sure that everyone feels safe dancing at *Houston, We Have a Promenade*.**

We'll publish more details on our safety precautions over the next couple of issues of the newsletter. Stay tuned for details!



## Registration

With over a year to go, we're at 266 paid registrations as of 5/30/2020.

Book your convention registration online at <https://www.iagsdc.org>, under **Events / List Events**. You'll need an IAGSDC website account to register.

See our website at [www.houprom.com](http://www.houprom.com) for detailed registration instructions!

## First Timer Discount!

If you had a first-timer discount approved by *Take A Peak 2020*, we will honor that approval and extend our first time attendee rate to you.

As soon as we get the final list from our friends in Denver, we will reach out to you to confirm the discount and discuss payment details.

If Houston will be your first time attending an IAGSDC convention, you are entitled to a lower rate, which is subsidized by [All Join Hands](#).

The First Time Attendee rate is US\$175.00.

Details can be found at <https://houprom.com/registration/>

Issue 2

Spring, 2020

<https://www.houprom.com>

[info@houprom.com](mailto:info@houprom.com)

## Fun Badge Tour

We still have about 100 spaces open for the Fun Badge Tour at US\$50.00 each! Register on the IAGSDC website, at <https://www.iagsdc.org>, under **Events / List Events!**

## Rates

**Dancer:** US\$200.00 (through 12/31/2020), or US\$225.00 (from 1/1/2021 onwards)

**New Dancer or First Convention:** US\$175.00 (through 6/25/2021)

**Non-Dancer:** US\$100.00

## Mission Apparel

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 shutdown has affected operations for our merchandise vendors, so we're not *quite* ready to start taking orders yet.

Hang in there, and we'll have a storefront up somewhere on the web as soon as we can!

## Volunteer!

We're going to need volunteers for a number of activities once we all get to Houston, such as hall monitors, information desk staffers, and green room monitors.

Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Allan Hurst, at [volunteers@houprom.com](mailto:volunteers@houprom.com) to ask not what your mission can do for, but what you can do for your mission!

## Our Host Hotel: Hyatt Regency Downtown

We'll be staying and dancing at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown. *Our hotel block will open on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020.*

New for this year: there will be a separate room block for GCA Caller School attendees and staff. This will involve a separate booking code, which will be distributed by the Gay Callers Association.

**Standard Rate:** \$129/night (for up to four guests sharing). This rate is available from 6/29/2021 through 7/8/2021.

This includes **free wi-fi in guest rooms.**

Hyatt Regency Houston offers valet and self-parking for all guests.

**Valet Parking:** 0-10 hours = \$25 + tax, 10-20 hours = \$40 + tax, Overnight = \$40/Night + Tax

**Self-Parking:** The parking garage is connected to the hotel and doesn't offer in/out privileges. \$20/daily.

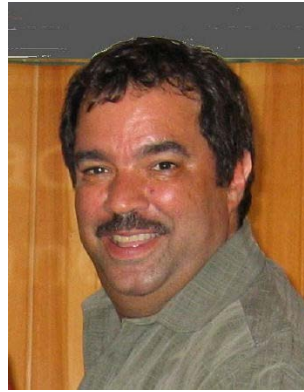
Houston is served by two airports: Hobby and Bush Intercontinental. The hotel is much closer to Hobby. We're still gathering airport transfer information to publish in a future newsletter.



## Trail In Dance

Due to a scheduling conflict, Justin Russell will not be able to call our trail in dance.

However, we're very excited to confirm that the legendary **Johnny Preston** will join **Deborah Carroll-Jones** for a rockin' and rollin' welcome to Houston!



## Convention Logo

A number of people have asked about the convention logo, which depicts 8 astronauts square dancing around a space capsule bearing the flags of the United States, Canada, and Japan – the IAGSDC member countries!

Our logo was designed by Urso Chappell, a logo and branding expert who also designed the logo for the [IAGSDC History Project](#).

Urso has worked on a number of well-known international brands, as well as World's Fair expositions. You can find out more about Urso at <http://www.ursochappell.com/>



\*\*\* OFFICIAL BRIEFING REVIEW \*\*\*

**Mission Name:** Houston, We Have a Promenade

**Mission Dates:** 2 July 2021 – 4 July 2021

**Spacecraft:** Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown

**Launching Pad:** 1200 Louisiana Street, Houston, TX 77002

**Scope of Mission:** Trail-In Dance, three days of top-flight square dancing from Mainstream through C4, Honky Tonk Queen Contest, Banquet, Brunch, Specialty Tips, Fun Badge Tour, Pre- and Post-Convention Tours.

**Mission Commander:** Rick ("Dicktator") Hawes

**Registration & Finance:** Gordon ("Clochette Maternel") Macaw

**Sound & Callers:** Seth ("La Petite Bete") Levine

**Hotel & Travel:** John ("La Reine du Voyage") Faulds

**Communications & Volunteers:** Allan ("Écume") Hurst

\*\*\* END BRIEFING REVIEW \*\*\*